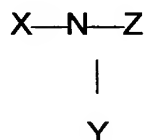


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of simultaneously cleansing the skin and reducing skin sensitivity and/or skin reactivity comprising topically applying a skin cleanser composition comprising:

(a) an effective amount of at least one alkanolamine of the formula:



wherein X, Y and Z are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl group, C₂-C₄ alkanol group, wherein at least one of X, Y or Z is a C₂-C₄ alkanol group bearing at least one hydroxyl group and optionally at least one carboxyl group;

(b) a cleansing surfactant; and

(c) water.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said alkanolamine is selected from the group consisting of ethylaminoethanol, methylaminoethanol, dimethylaminoethanol-amine, isopropanolamine, triethanolamine, isopropanoldimethylamine, ethylethanolamine, 2-butanolamine, choline and serine.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein said alkanolamine is dimethylaminoethanol.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said alkanolamine is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 10% by weight of the composition.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein said alkanolamine is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 5% by weight of the composition.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the cleansing surfactant is selected from the group consisting of non-ionic surfactants, cationic surfactants, amphoteric surfactants, anionic surfactant, and mixtures thereof.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the cleansing surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sodium cocoyl sarcosinate, decyl glucoside, lauryl glucoside, ammonium laureth sulfate, cocoamidopropyl betaine, lauryl betaine, sodium cocoamphoacetate, and mixtures thereof.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the cleansing surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sucrose cocoate, sucrose stearate and mixtures thereof.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the cleansing composition further comprises a non-ionic emulsifier cleansing enhancer.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the non-ionic emulsifier cleansing enhancer is selected from the group consisting of isoceteth 20, oleth-2, mixture of PEG-40 hydrogenated castor oil and trideceth-9, Poloxamer 184, laureth-4, sorbitan trioleate, polyoxyethylene-(2) oleyl ether, sorbitan stearate, cetearyl glucoside, glyceryl oleate, glucamate SSE-20, Glucate DO and mixtures thereof.

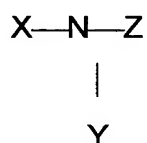
11. The method of claim 1 wherein the skin cleanser composition is in the form of a gel, a bath, a wash, a mousse, a shampoo, a rinse, a lotion, a cream, or a spray.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the skin cleanser composition is incorporated into material carrier selected from a wet wipe, a puff, a brush, or a sponge.

13. A method for ameliorating redness or inflammation of mammalian skin by topically applying a composition comprising:

- (c) an effective amount of at least one alkanolamine;
- (b) a cleansing surfactant; and
- (c) water;

wherein said alkanolamine has the following general formula:



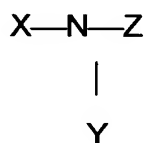
wherein X, Y and Z are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl group, C₂-C₄ alkanol group, wherein at least one of X, Y or Z is a C₂-C₄ alkanol group bearing at least one hydroxyl group and optionally at least one carboxyl group.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein said composition is applied to red or inflamed skin.

15. A method according to claim 13, wherein said composition is applied to sun burned skin, wind burned skin, or skin that is red or inflamed due to contact with irritating soaps or cleansers.

16. A method according to claim 14, wherein said composition is applied to skin that is red or inflamed due to rosacea, atopic dermatitis, or allergic skin reactions.

17. A method for ameliorating the irritating effects of a skin irritating cleansing composition comprising a cleansing surfactant, said method comprising adding to said composition an effective amount of at least one alkanolamine having the following general formula:



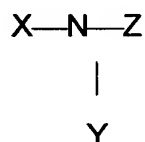
wherein X, Y and Z are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl group, C₂-C₄ alkanol group, wherein at least one of X, Y or Z is a C₂-C₄ alkanol group bearing at least one hydroxyl group and optionally at least one carboxyl group.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein said alkanolamine is selected from the group consisting of ethylaminoethanol, methylaminoethanol, dimethylaminoethanol-amine, isopropanolamine,

triethanolamine, isopropanoldimethylamine, ethylethanol-amine, 2-butanolamine, choline and serine.

19. A method of reducing the irritation of a topical skin treatment comprising topically applying a skin cleanser composition comprising:

(a) an effective amount of at least one alkanolamine of the formula:



wherein X, Y and Z are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl group, C₂-C₄ alkanol group, wherein at least one of X, Y or Z is a C₂-C₄ alkanol group bearing at least one hydroxyl group and optionally at least one carboxyl group;

(b) a cleansing surfactant; and

(c) water;

prior to or intercurrently with application of the irritating topical skin treatment.

20. A method according to claim 17, wherein said alkanolamine is selected from the group consisting of ethylaminoethanol, methylaminoethanol, dimethylaminoethanol-amine, isopropanolamine, triethanolamine, isopropanoldimethylamine, ethylethanol-amine, 2-butanolamine, choline and serine.